



FREEDOM WATCH



September 9, 2002

Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

First lady: turn off TVs on 9/11

WASHINGTON — First lady Laura Bush is asking parents to turn off the television on Sept. 11 and instead read to their children and perhaps light a memorial candle. “Don’t let your children see the images, especially on Sept. 11, when you know it’ll probably be on television again and again — the plane hitting the building or the buildings falling,” Mrs. Bush said in an interview Friday with Univision, a Spanish-language TV network.

Jerry Lewis takes ill in London

LONDON, England — Veteran Hollywood comedian Jerry Lewis was taken ill on Sunday night just before going on stage at a London charity performance. The audience was told that the 76-year-old Lewis, who has been

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Special Forces find cache at school

Story & photo by Sgt. Eric Barker
300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Army Special Forces discovered an underground weapons cache left by the Taliban near a school in the Jousef Khil village, Zabul Province, Afghanistan.

Jousef Khil consists of about 16 families, averaging seven members each.

“It took about three or four weeks to gain the trust of the villagers,” said Scott, a Special Forces soldier. “They were reluctant at first, comparing us to the So-



Army Special Forces discover mortar from an underground weapons cache left by the Taliban near a school in the Jousef Khil village.

viets. However, we are not here to enforce anything, we are just hear to help.”

Scott and his team told the villagers that they could get rid of the weapons and make their

children safe.

“Once we won them over, they started sharing information bit by bit,” Scott said. “One day it was a row of bombs in the valley, next day they showed us more.”

On Tuesday, along with the help of Naval Special Operation Forces, the weapons, of different calibers and styles, were removed and destroyed.

“Army SF was informed of weapons by an Afghan working with the Afghanistan Development Agency,” said Ned, a Special Forces soldier.

The weapons from the cache were pulled remotely and exploded by Naval SOF.

The weapons cache, which was found near a school, was filled with water when the Taliban was here.

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309th AFAR in country, ready for action

Story & photo by Spc. Kevin M. Buckley
300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — The theatre of operations has welcomed the final piece of the 82nd Airborne Regimental Combat Brigade. Battery C, 1st Battalion, 309th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, Fort Bragg, N.C., arrived in Kandahar Aug. 29 with Howitzers.

The soldiers were supposed to be in country almost a month



Members of Battery C, 1st Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment conduct gunnery at a training site at Kandahar Air Field Thursday.

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Photo by Spc. Kevin M. Buckley, 300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment Pfc. Gregory D. Natoli, a cannoneer for Batt. C, 1st Bn., 319th AFAR, tosses an expended Howitzer round casing before preparing to fire another in Kandahar.

■ **AFAR**, from Page 1

ago, but because of the air-flow associated with the change of command from the 101st Airborne Division to the 82nd Airborne Division, and the amount of equipment they were bringing, the unit was delayed.

“We, as a unit, have been deployed since June,” said Lt. Col. Charles K. Hardy, commander. “I was sent to Afghanistan early in order to establish base camp operations. My unit unfortunately had to stay behind at Fort Bragg and wait for a flight.”

The combat brigade is made up of a forward support battalion, an aviation battalion and a direct sup-

port field artillery battalion. The 82nd came to Afghanistan in late June with everything but the artillery battalion.

“We now have all the assets that we train with at home here, in Afghanistan,” said Hardy.

“We were anxiously waiting at Fort Bragg to come over and be a useable command asset,” said Staff Sgt. Douglas A. Hildebrand, gunnery sergeant.

Battery C had the opportunity to fire the newly arrived artillery Thursday during an exercise.

“It was great to be in country only a few days and be able to fire our weapons at a range here, in Afghanistan,” said Hildebrand. “My

troops made me very proud because their reaction time was very expedient to the fire missions.”

“I am very proud to be part of the team and I am very confident in the leadership of the battery,” said Pvt. James R. Weir, fire direction center radio operator. “I think that the artillery range exercise was a success because no one was injured and everybody was working together as a team.”

Hildebrand said the AFAR’s reunion with the combat brigade is a good feeling.

“We are very honored to be here and are ready to support our fellow soldiers in the war against terrorism,” he said.

“The U.S. never uses schools or religious places as targets. It’s a shame that there are groups in this world that have so little regard for life that they would use women and children as a shield,” he said.

The floor and walls of the cache were loaded with ammunition and rounds, which Ned said the villagers wanted removed.

“The Taliban put the weapons there because they knew the weapons would be safe. They know that U.S. airplanes would not bomb a school,” said Abdul Jabbar, a teacher at the school.

“The bottom line is those rounds could have gone off while children were playing in that cellar,” said Ned.

The school, consisting of about 36 students ages 4-14, was evacuated for safety precautions.

“Having the weapons in the village, and so close to the school, is too dangerous for the children and us. They play in that area. The children do not know better and throw rocks at the ordnance,” said Juma Gol, a teacher at the school.

The school has only male students, a remnant of the Taliban. The faculty hopes to soon admit females, Gol said.

“It is important for people to know what we do,” Ned said. “Hopefully this will set a precedent for other schools in the country that weapons are not safe for children and they need to get the stuff out. It also lets the Taliban know that no hiding place is safe.”

HIND SIGHT

1087

William the Conquerer died in Rouen while conducting a war that began when the French king made fun of him for being fat.

1543

Mary, Queen of Scots, was crowned Queen of England.

1776

The term “United States” was adopted by the Continental Congress to be used instead of the “United Colonies.”

1911

An airmail route opened between London and Windsor.

1970

U.S. Marines launched Operation Dubois Square, a 10-day search for North Vietnamese troops near DaNang.

suffering from pulmonary fibrosis in the lungs, would not be performing because he was unwell.

Lewis, who has been plagued by ill health for years, was due to appear at the London Palladium, the theatre where he first played alongside Dean Martin 50 years ago.

Food developed to relieve dog arthritis

LEICESTER, England – Veterinarians have harnessed the power of New Zealand green lip mussels to produce a dog food that helps to relieve arthritis pain suffered by aging canines around the globe.

As many as one fifth of the 4.8 million dogs in Britain alone experience the painful inflammation of the joints, which is particularly prevalent in large breeds and older dogs.

But veterinarians and scientists at Waltham, the pet care side of U.S. candy and food maker Mars Inc, said on Monday they had produced a food using New Zealand green lip mussels to ease the suffering of man’s best friend.

It includes an extract from the flesh of the mussels that has been processed in a special way. It has been used for several years to alleviate the pain of arthritis in humans.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>
<u>Bagram:</u>	<i>Mostly clear</i> H: 90F L: 52F	<i>Mostly clear</i> H: 90F L: 50F
<u>Kandahar:</u>	<i>Clear</i> H: 95F L: 63F	<i>Clear</i> H: 95F L: 61F
<u>Kabul:</u>	<i>Mostly clear</i> H: 86F L: 48F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 88F L: 48F
<u>Uzbekistan:</u>	<i>Sunny</i> H: 88F L: 50F	<i>Sunny</i> H: 89F L: 50F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

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COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Tennis: Sampras completes improbable run

NEW YORK — Pete Sampras was right all along: He did have a 14th Grand Slam title in him. And just like the first, all those years ago, it came in a U.S. Open final against his old rival Andre Agassi.

His serve clicking, his volleys on target, his forehand as fluid as ever, Sampras beat Agassi 6-3, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4 on Sunday to win America's major for the fifth time. At 31, Sampras is the Open's oldest champion since 1970.

And though he stopped short of saying he'll quit, Sampras did sound like someone who's thinking about retiring on a high.

"To beat a rival like Andre, in a storybook ending, it might be nice to stop," he said. "But I still love to compete. I'll see in a couple of months where my heart is and my mind. My head is spinning."

Sampras hadn't won a title since Wimbledon in July 2000, a drought of 33 tournaments, and he was seeded just 17th at the Open. He's deflected questions about whether he'd keep going for some time now, insisting he still could produce on the big stage. After all, he figured, his 13 major titles were a record.

NFL scoreboard: Opening Weekend

Chicago 27-23 Minnesota
 N.Y. Jets 37-31 Buffalo (OT)
 Kansas City 40-39 Cleveland
 San Diego 34-6 Cincinnati
 Tennessee 27-24 Philadelphia
 Green Bay 37-34 Atlanta (OT)
 Washington 31-23 Arizona
 Miami 49-21 Detroit
 Indianapolis 28-25 Jacksonville
 Carolina 10-7 Baltimore
 Oakland 31-17 Seattle
 New Orleans 26-20 Tampa Bay (OT)
 Denver 23-16 St. Louis

Top Performers

Passing
 Collins, NYG, 342 yards, 0 TDs, 3 INTS
 Matthews, WAS, 327 yards, 3 TDs, 1 INT
 Holcomb, CLE, 326 yards, 3 TDs, 0 INT
Rushing
 Green, GB, 27 carries for 155 yards, 0 TDs
 Henry, BUF, 31 carries for 149 yards, 3 TDs
 Garner, OAK, 15 carries for 127 yards, 1 TD
Receiving
 Booker, CHI, 8 catches for 198 yards, 1 TD
 Morgan, CLE, 9 catches for 151 yards, 2 TDs
 Boston, ARI, 7 catches for 138 yards, 1TD

2002 Major League standings

American League East				GB
N.Y. Yankees	89-53	.627	-	
Boston	79-62	.560	9.5	
Baltimore	64-77	.454	24.5	
American League Central				GB
Minnesota	82-60	.577	-	
Chicago (AL)	69-74	.483	13.5	
Cleveland	64-78	.451	18	
American League West				GB
Oakland	89-52	.631	-	
Anaheim	88-54	.620	1.5	
Seattle	84-58	.592	5.5	
National League East				GB
Atlanta	90-51	.638	-	
Philadelphia	70-72	.493	20.5	
Montreal	70-73	.490	21	
National League Central				GB
St. Louis	81-61	.570	-	
Houston	76-67	.531	5.5	
Cincinnati	69-73	.486	12	
National League West				GB
Arizona	87-56	.621	-	
Los Angeles	82-60	.583	4.5	
San Francisco	81-61	.561	5.5	

Thursday's scores

Anaheim 6-2 Baltimore
 N.Y. Mets 11-3 Philadelphia
 Toronto 9-4 Boston
 Florida 11-1 Pittsburgh
 N.Y. Yankees 6-4 Detroit
 Montreal 7-0 Atlanta
 Tampa Bay 6-3 Texas
 Cincinnati 5-4 Milwaukee
 Chicago (AL) 7-6 Cleveland
 St. Louis 9-6 Chicago Cubs
 Seattle 16-9 Kansas City, 11 inn.
 San Diego 9-4 Colorado
 Oakland 6-0 Minnesota
 San Francisco 3-1 Arizona
 Houston 6-2 Los Angeles

**W
I
L
D**

NL

1. Los Angeles .583
2. San Francisco .561
3. Houston .529
4. Philadelphia .500
5. Montreal .489

**C
A
R
D**

AL

1. Anaheim .614
2. Seattle .586
3. Boston .561
4. Chicago Sox .482
5. Baltimore .460